

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

*Sub B1*

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): Stick-type connected nails formed by arranging a plurality of nails in parallel and in an equidistant manner,

wherein said nails are connected to each other by gluing connecting bands to a shaft portion of each of said nails, and

wherein said connecting bands are glued to said shaft portions of said nails at positions in the vicinity of an upper end and ~~an~~ a lower end of each of said shaft portions, and

wherein plural sheets of the stick-type connected nails are loaded superposed in a multiple loading-type nail magazine such that the vertical position of respective heads thereof is offset.

*A 3*

Claim 2 (Original) The stick-type connected nails according to Claim 1, wherein said connecting bands are made of paper.

Claim 3 (Original): The stick-type connected nails according to Claim 1, wherein said connecting bands are made of resin.

Claim 4 (Original): The stick-type connected nails according to Claim 1, wherein said connecting bands are provided on both sides of said shaft portions in the vicinity of both said upper end and said lower end of each of said shaft portions.

Claim 5 (Original): The stick-type connected nails according to Claim 1, wherein said connecting bands are provided on both sides of said shaft portions in the vicinity of said upper end of each of said shaft portions and on one side of said shaft portions in the vicinity of said lower end of each of said shaft portions.

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a Claim 6 (Original): The stick-type connected nails according to Claim 1, wherein said connecting bands are provided on one side of said shaft portions in the vicinity of both said upper end and said lower end of each of said shaft portions.

Claim 7 (Original): The stick-type connected nails according to Claim 6, wherein said connecting band in the vicinity of said lower end of each of said shaft portions is glued to the surfaces opposite to surfaces to which said connecting band in the vicinity of said upper end of each of said shaft portions is glued.

Claim 8 (NEW): The stick-type connected nails according to Claim 1, wherein the lower end of each of said shaft portions of said nails contact the lower end connecting bands of at least one of its adjacent sheets in said magazine.